THE BRUSHY-COOLEY-CYPRESS CREEK NEWS

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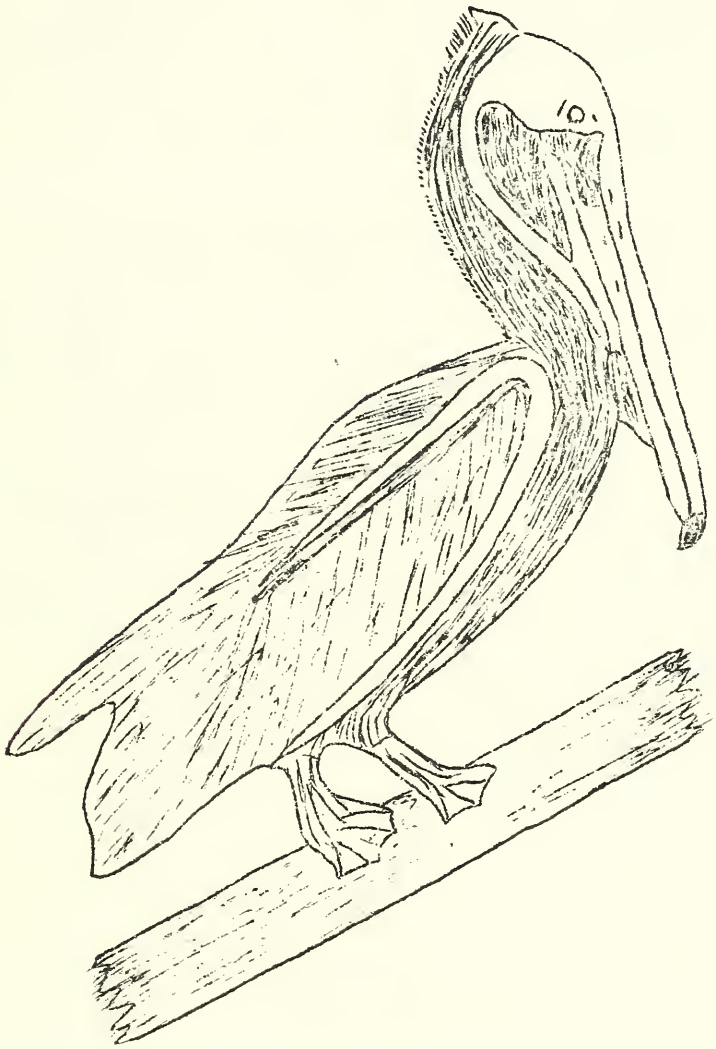


UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
SOIL EROSION SERVICE
MINDEN, LA.

AN APPRECIATION

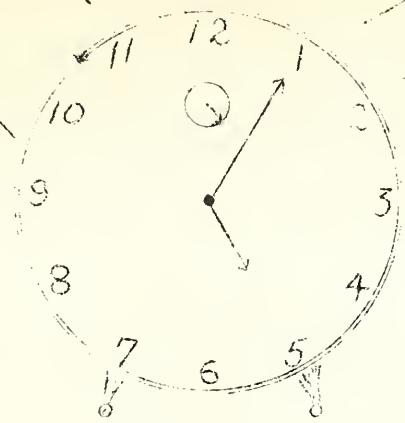
This issue is dedicated to the late Dr. A. H. Meyer, Regional Director, who died on September 15, from injuries received in an automobile accident.

It was not by accident of birth or environment that the late Dr. A. H. Meyer reached the position of executive head of one of the most important projects in the National Soil Erosion Service. He was a man of prodigious energy and unusual perceptions. During the forty-five years of his unusually active life he had achieved prominence in many phases of Agricultural Science. He was a soil technician by preference and his research into this branch of the science has been recognized by many of the greatest authorities of the times.

He lived as a boy on a mid-western farm and the early impressions of farm life no doubt influenced him in his choice of life's work. He mastered the Three Rs in a small Wisconsin town, and upon graduation entered the University of Wisconsin, finishing the agricultural course in 1911. From 1911 to 1920 he was a social scientist in Washington, D. C., under Professor Milton Whitney. From 1920 to 1921 he was in charge of the soil survey for the state of Georgia. From 1921 to 1923 he was in charge of the soil survey for the state of Arkansas. Deciding to acquire a Doctor's degree in Agriculture, he returned to his home school at Wisconsin and during the time required to get his degree was an assistant to Prof. A. R. Whitson. Leaving Madison in 1927, he went to Clemson College, where he was engaged in soil research for two years. By this time his work in research in soils had won recognition, and the Louisiana State University offered him a place at Baton Rouge. He accepted and continued his valuable research work five years. Upon commencement of the National Soil Erosion Service Program in Louisiana, he was chosen from among many to head this important work. This in itself was one of the highest tributes that could be paid to a man of his profession. It is a compliment to the judgment of his superiors that they gave him a free hand in the management of this important part of the National Program. Their decision was justified from the first, for few projects function so smoothly or successfully as the Louisiana Project. In less than a year's time he built an organization of unusual proficiency. He had managed to take a group of men, strangers to one another, and build them into a unit not only of working efficiency but of fellowship.

Dr. Meyer was a real leader. His enthusiasm was untiring, and his words always carried the conviction that he believed implicitly in the things which he did. He loved life, played hard and worked hard. He was kind and considerate in his home, and loyal to his friends. He inspired confidence in everyone.

TIMELY TOPICS



AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Our terracing program is beginning to get under way. Almost every day from one to five farmers notify this office that their crops have been harvested and that the fields are ready to be terraced. We are sure each farmer realizes that his cooperative agreement calls for very definite participation on his part. In fact, in all cooperative agreements between the farmer and the government, the government agreed to furnish terracing plows, corsicana terracers and fresnos, and to make surveys for terraces; and the farmer agreed to construct same. However, six 40 horse power tractors and large graders are being used by the government to assist farmers in the terracing program, and will be used on many of the larger fields that are not too rough. We are planning to operate this equipment as near 24 hours per day as possible in order to help the farmer complete as much of the terracing program this season as possible. Your full cooperation is very necessary and the following things are what each farmer is expected to do in connection with the program.

1. Notify this office as soon as crops are harvested and your fields are ready to be terraced.

2. Furnish high stakes, (small three to four feet long), for staking out terrace lines.

3. Furnish man to drive stakes.

4. Furnish mule, single plow and man to mark off terrace lines.

5. Furnish team, driver and drag pan if available, start building up low places in terrace ridges, and also do the necessary fill work at terrace outlets.

6. Construct entire terrace system on those fields too rough or too steep for tractors to operate.

7. Furnish team and driver to smooth out terrace ridges.

The Soil Erosion Service will make surveys of all terraces and will furnish terracing plows, corsicana graders and fresnos for the construction of terraces on fields where the heavier equipment will not be used, and with your cooperation and normal weather conditions the greater part of all farms in the watershed can be terraced this season.

STRIP CROPS

The subject of strip cropping is still new to most of us. In the last few years much time has been spent in proving the value of strip crops as a means of controlling erosion. Strip crops are used only on sloping land and will occupy from 20% to 50% of a field, depending on the slope. Oats, vetch, lespedeza, peas, soy beans and any other close growing plants with dense fibrous root systems make good strip crops.

By strip cropping, we mean planting a strip of the regular crop, such as cotton or corn; then a strip of a close growing crop; then another strip of the regular crop. The purpose of the strip crop is to halt the downhill flow of water and to filter out the soil particles, holding the soil on the slopes instead of letting it wash down into the streams.

RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY

Three trained men in the Soil Erosion Service are now in the field collecting information on erosion conditions to determine the kinds and amounts of erosion.

PROVIDING FOOD AND FEED FOR THE FAMILY AND LIVESTOCK

The drouth has been unusually severe. We have made little corn, hay, potatoes or other feed stuff for our livestock or food for our families. Uncle Sam is going to give us a lift - "thanks to President Roosevelt" - but we must not sit idly by with folded hands and expect Uncle Sam to supply our many needs. Let's do a little thinking for ourselves and then put our thoughts into action.

When the Lord had created the earth, he divided the time into seasons and in His infinite wisdom provided vegetation particularly adapted to grow best during each season. He did not do this accidentally but with the purpose that the creatures He had made might be fed. Then above all other animals He placed man, giving him a brain capable of thinking. Now if we fail to think and refuse to act upon our thoughts, we become responsible for our suffering.

The thought we are trying to get across to our farmers is that we can still help ourselves and not suffer for food if we will use what we have on hand.

The following table might be used as a guide for growing winter crops as soon as there is sufficient moisture.

FOR LIVESTOCK

What to Plant	When to Plant	Amt. Seed Per Acre	Variety	Method	Fertilizer Per A.	Will be Ready to Feed	Average Yield Per Acre
Stock Beets	Oct. 1 - Feb. 15	8 lbs. per Acre	---	30 in. rows	10 wagon loads well rotted manure or 600 lbs. 6-10-7 commercial fertilizer	3½ months after planting	400 bu.
Stock Carrots	Sept. 15- Oct. 15	2½ lbs. per Acre	Yellow Victoria or White Belgian	30 in. rows	Same as for Beets	5 months after planting	350 bu.
Rutabagas & Turnips	Aug. 1 - Dec. 1	3 # per acre	---	30 in. rows	Same as for Beets	3 months after planting	350 bu.
Oats	Sept. 15- Oct. 20	2 to 3 bu.	La. or Texas Red Rust proof or Fulghum	Close Drill or Broadcast	100# Nitrate of Soda applied early in February	15th of May	
Vetch	Sept. 15- Oct. 20	20# per acre	Hairy Peruvian	Close Drill or Broadcast	200# superphosphate	19th of May	
Oats and vetch may be planted together, planting 1½ - 2 bus. of oats and 10 - 15 lbs. of vetch seed							
FOR THE FAMILY							
Bunch Beans	Aug. 15- Sept. 15	1# for 100 ft. rows	Curries Rust Proof Wax or sure crop Stringless Wax	30 in. rows	5 loads well rotted manure or 300# 4-10-7 fertilizer		
Cabbage	July to Feb.	1/8 ounce per 100 ft. rows	Copenhagen Market or Charleston Wakefield	30 in. rows	600# 4-10-7 fertilizer		

What to Plant	When to Plant	Amt. Seed Per Acre	Variety	Method	Fertilizer per acre	Will be Ready to Feed	Average Yield Per Acre
Lettuce	Sept. to Jan.	1/4 ounce per 100	New York or Big Boston	30 in. rows	5 loads well rotted manure or 600# 6-10-7 fertilizer		
Mustard	Aug. to Feb.	1/4 ounce per 100 ft. rows	Tender green or Southern Giant Curly	Rows or Broadcast	5 loads well rotted manure or 600# 6-10-7 fertilizer		
Peas	Late Sept.	1 lb. to 100 ft. rows	Thomas Laxton	30 in. rows	5 loads well rotted manure or 400# 4-12-8 fertilizer		
Onions	Sept. 15-Oct. 15	1 oz. to 100 ft. rows	Creole or Yellow Bermuda	24 in. rows	10 loads well rotted manure or 600# 4-12-8 fertilizer		
Radish	Sept.	1 oz. to 100 ft. rows	Saxa	24 in. rows	5 loads well rotted manure or 400# 4-12-8 fertilizer		
Shallots	Aug. 15-Feb.	1 oz. to 100 ft. rows	White	24 in. rows	10 loads well rotted manure or 600# 4-12-8 fertilizer		
Spinach	Oct.-Feb.	1 oz. to 100 ft. rows	Broad leaf Flanders or Bloomsdale Savoy	24 in. rows or Broadcast	5 loads well rotted manure or 500# 4-12-8 fertilizer	NOTE (See your County Agent and Home Demonstration Agent who will give you full information about all these crops.)	
Turnips	July to March	1 oz. to 100 ft. rows	Purple to Globe	24 in. rows or Broadcase	Same as for Spinach		

NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

To the people of our watershed areas, the President of the United States has dedicated the week beginning October 7, 1934, as fire prevention week. Let each and every one work with our President to make this a greater success.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

Disastrous fires destroy each year property of many kinds to a total greater than the whole value of all property in the Nation in the days of our forefathers. This loss seriously offsets our normal gain in national assets.

It is the simple obligation of every citizen to realize, knowing this, that a large proportion of these fires can be prevented by the exercise of proper care and by the use of appropriate fire-prevention measures.

I call special attention to the unfortunate fact that a very large percentage of fires in every part of the Nation is caused by acts of individual carelessness and that millions of dollars' worth of property could be preserved each year by the realization on the part of the individual of his or her responsibility to the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim and designate the week beginning October 7, 1934, as Fire Prevention Week, and I particularly urge State and municipal officials, civic and commercial organizations, school authorities, the clergy, and the press to emphasize the danger of and needless waste caused by fire and to encourage the study of ways and means whereby fire hazards and the disastrous consequences of fire may be prevented as far as possible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this tenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifty-ninth.

(SEAL)

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

"I'm for the Soil Erosion Service 100%," says J. W. Felts, who wants 40 acres of new forest and 35 acres of new improved pasture. "That strip cropping proposition sounds good to me. Something that holds the soil on these old hills and furnishes feed next spring is what I've been needing for years," he volunteered.

GAME CONSERVATION

Organization of hunting units of 500 acres or more is moving forward. The owners of these units will allow no hunting on their land for two years at least, control predatory animals and plant feed for the birds. When several coveys of quail are raised on the place, the owners will sell hunting privileges to sportsmen, thus getting money for their trouble in addition to deriving benefit from insect control.

The financial side of game conservation from the farm standpoint has been given little or no attention in the South.

Sportsmen in this region have indicated that they will be willing to pay for the privilege of hunting on units of 500 acres or more that are well stocked with quail.

Birds are an essential part of every farm. They are the farmer's best friends in insect control, allowing him to grow more and better crops. Examinations made by the United States Biological Survey show that one quail may eat as many as 45 boll weevils in one meal.

There are approximately 250 species of birds in this section of Louisiana. Every farm does not have as many birds as it should and is, therefore, deprived of the benefits that it should and could have.

The following information is taken from Farmers Bulletin No. 1644:

"The value of birds lies chiefly in their destruction of injurious insects. Leading an active life they require much food and are the most ravenous enemies of pests of this kind. Hardly an agricultural pest escapes their attacks.

The army worm has 43 bird enemies
The billbug has 110 bird enemies
The cotton boll weevil has 66 bird enemies
The brown tailed moth has 31 bird enemies
The chinch bug has 29 bird enemies
The clover root borer has 94 bird enemies
The clover weevil has 48 bird enemies
The coddling moth has 36 bird enemies
The cotton worm has 41 bird enemies
The cut worm has 98 bird enemies
The forest tent caterpillar has 32 bird enemies
The gypsy moth has 46 bird enemies
The horsefly has 49 bird enemies
The leafhopper has 175 bird enemies
The orchard tent caterpillar has 43 bird enemies
The potato beetle has 34 bird enemies
The 12 spotted cucumber beetle has 42 bird enemies
The white grub has 95 bird enemies
The wire worm has 205 bird enemies"

RAIN GAGING

Sixteen rain gages are stationed in and near the watersheds as follows:

STATION	LOCATION	NO. RAINS FROM SEPT. 1 TO SEPT. 24	TOTAL INCHES RAINFALL
No. 1	S. F. Krouse, 6 miles from Minden on Germantown Road.	Sept. 3 - 0.95 in. Sept. 10 - 0.01 in. Sept. 17 - 0.69 in.	1.65 in.
No. 2	Gulf Tank Farm, 7 miles from Minden at Dubberly.	Sept. 3 - 0.70 in. Sept. 17 - 0.39 in.	1.09 in.
No. 3	T. Pearce, 7 miles from Minden on Heflin-Dubberly Road.	Sept. 3 - 0.78 in. Sept. 17 - 0.52 in.	1.30 in.
No. 4	Jack Dyer, 4 miles from Minden on Shreveport Road.	Sept. 3 - 0.62 in. Sept. 17 - 0.99 in.	1.61 in.
No. 5	Matt Moore, 4 miles from Minden on Homer Road.	Sept. 3 - 0.75 in. Sept. 5 - 0.03 in. Sept. 15 - 0.30 in.	1.08 in.
No. 6	Ernest Connell, 5 miles from Minden on Dubberly Road.	Sept. 3 - 0.77 in. 0.04 in. Sept. 10 - 0.06 in. Sept. 15 - 0.31 in.	1.18 in.
No. 7	O. W. Brackin, 8 miles from Minden on Sibley-Heflin Road.	Sept. 3 - 0.95 in. Sept. 10 - 0.05 in. 0.02 in. Sept. 5 - 0.36 in. Sept. 22 - 0.01 in.	1.39 in.
No. 8	Will Beck, 7 miles from Minden on Ruston Road.	Sept. 3 - 0.66 in. Sept. 10 - 0.09 in. Sept. 15 - 0.41 in. Sept. 22 - 0.01 in.	1.17 in.
No. 9	T. C. Alexander, 8 miles west of Ruston on U. S. Hy. #80.	Not mounted.	
No. 10	G. D. Hogg, 2 miles east of Unionville on Highway.	No record.	
No. 11	F. C. Colb, 2 miles from Ruston on Parish Road.	Not mounted.	
No. 12	Miss Loguin, 1 mile from Dubach on Highway #167	Not mounted.	

RAIN GAGING (Continued)

STATION	LOCATION	NO. RAINS FROM SEPT. 1 TO SEPT. 24.	TOTAL INCHES RAINFALL
No. 13	Dr. Charlie Laurance, 1 mile from Vienna.	Sept. 3 - 0.45 in. Sept. 10 - 0.40 in. Sept. 13 - 0.34 in. Sept. 21 - (?)	1.19 in.
No. 14	J. B. Jiles, 2 miles from Vienna on Mineral Springs Road.	Sept. 3 - 0.62 in. Sept. 10 - 0.32 in. Sept. 14 - 0.32 in. Sept. 15 - (?) Sept. 20 - 0.10 in.	1.36 in.
No. 15	M. L. Saints, 1/2 mile east of Hilly on road leading from Hy. #167 to Hilly.	Sept. 3 - 0.56 in. Sept. 10 - 0.25 in. Sept. 13 - 0.60 in. Sept. 15 - 0.03 in.	1.55 in.
No. 16	R. L. Holtzcraw, 1/2 mile east of Douglas.	Sept. 3 - 0.53 in. Sept. 14 - 0.32 in. Sept. 20 - 0.21 in. Sept. 21 - 0.01 in.	1.07 in.

GET RID OF POCKET GOPHERS AND MOLES

Trapping pocket gophers, commonly known as salamanders, has begun on newly constructed terraces. Fifty were caught on 90 acres of terraced land owned by Mr. F. M. Clement. Beginning about November 15, a crew of men will start an extensive eradication campaign on the pocket gopher and mole. Every farm in the area will be visited. The farmers will be asked to show the boys over their farms and to help with the poisoning work, which will consist of placing strychnine alkaloid treated potatoes in the pocket gopher runways. Mole traps are available at the office now for those farmers who need them. Just call by and ask for one. The pocket gopher and mole are a serious menace in starting gullies, causing breaks in terraces and damage to crops.

"Soil Erosion work is the real thing," says Mr. E. H. Lumpkin. "They have gone far beyond my expectations and have taught me practices that I expect to follow as long as I farm."

COMMUNITY PROSPERITY

The loss of soil and soil fertility is a fundamental reason for the decline of community prosperity. The loss of productive power makes land less capable of bearing taxation to support local government. The chief factor in soil deterioration is the washing away of the fertile top soil, aside from the decline in soil fertility due to over-cropping and improper soil care.

EXECUTIVE AND TECHNICAL STAFF

H. M. Mims - Acting Regional Director

M. Hays - Chief Clerk

1. H. M. Mims - Chief Agronomist
2. H. B. Martin - Agronomist
3. A. C. Morris - Agronomist
4. A. A. Breeden - Asst. Agronomist
5. E. H. Greene - Agricultural Aide
6. J. W. Hammett - Agricultural Aide
7. B. J. Slack - Agricultural Aide
8. L. Almond - Agricultural Aide

9. W. E. Dee - Chief of Range Management

10. A. S. McKean - Forester
11. G. McCallum - Agricultural Aide

12. A. H. Bean - Soil Expert
13. J. Y. Oakes - Jr. Soil Expert
14. F. A. Mitchell - Jr. Soil Expert

15. F. S. Edmiston - Chief Agri. Engineer
16. H. L. McCall - Asst. Agri. Engineer
17. A. Osterberger - Jr. Agri. Engineer
18. T. C. Anderson - Jr. Agri. Engineer
19. S. J. Breaux - Jr. Agri Engineer
20. E. Smith - Jr. Agri. Aide
21. D. Richardson - Jr. Agri. Aide
22. J. D. McIntyre - Jr. Agri. Aide